



#12/B^{w/lee}
AP
10/31/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PAUL *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/646,679

Filed: February 22, 2001

For: **Signal Transduction Protein
Involved in Plant Dehiscence**

Confirmation No. 2280

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Collins, C.E.

Atty. Docket: 0623.0890000/LBB/PAC

Third Preliminary Amendment

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered in advance of substantive examination. This amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;

(B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 and MPEP 714; and

(C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

10/29/2002 SSESHE1 00000067 09646679

01 FC:1201
02 FC:1202

84.00 OP
18.00 OP

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are